

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/708,703

Examiner

Walter F. Briney III

Applicant(s)

LIN, JASON J.

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 07 September 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,5-10 and 12.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other *e-mail correspondence*

*from Winston Hsu authorizing
Examiner Amendment*

*WFB
12/10/07*

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given by Winston Hsu on 10 December 2007 in an e-mail correspondence.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 9 (currently amended) The method of claim 8 wherein setting the loading delay comprises lengthening the loading delay to right shift the bits of the segment thereby attenuating the ~~analog~~ digital audio signal, and shortening the loading delay to left shift the bits of the segment thereby amplifying the analog audio signal, when the serial receiving of bits for the segment is by decreasing order of significance.

Claim 10 (currently amended) The method of claim 8 wherein setting the loading delay comprises lengthening the loading delay to right shift the bits of the segment thereby amplifying the ~~analog~~ digital audio signal, and shortening the loading delay to left shift the bits of the segment thereby attenuating the analog audio signal, when the serial receiving of bits for the segment is by increasing order of significance.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1 and 5 are allowable since claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the limitations of claims 2-4, including the allowable limitations of claim 4, and claim 5 depends on claim 1.

Claims 6 and 7 were allowed in the Non-Final Rejection at 10 (26 July 2007).

Claims 8-10 and 12 are allowable since applicant amended claim 8 to include a method step analogous to the analog amplifier defined in former claim 4. This Examiner Amendment was necessary to limit the scope of claims 9 and 10 to adjusting the amplitude of a digital signal when setting the loading delay. In the previous claim iteration, claims 9 and 10 evinced applicant's intention to include, within the ambit of claim 8, adjusting analog signal amplitude by setting loading delay. By this Amendment, when claim 8 is analyzed in light of the specification, the setting of the loading delay achieves coarse digital attenuation/amplification, which operates in tandem with a fine analog attenuation/amplification.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Walter F. Briney III whose telephone number is 571-272-7513. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am - 4:30pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on 571-272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/wfb/
12/10/07


SINH TRAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER